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HOMEMAKERS' CHAT
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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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SUBJECT: "Building with Logs" - Information from Forest Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture

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When a certain Johnny Doughboy gets out of the service--next month--he's going to build a log house for himself and his bride. It's not so much a matter of beating the housing shortage--though that's a consideration in these days. But Johnny says his motive has a deeper spring. He wants to provide the traditional log cabin for the birthplace of a lad who'll someday be president of the United States.

Well...we won't all have the same reason as Johnny Doughboy...but many of us are thinking of building log cabins and houses during coming months. Some of us like Johnny will build them for homes. Others are planning vacation cabins.

So I'd like to tell you about a new bulletin that's just been issued by the Forest Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. It's called "Building with Logs." Just a minute and I'll tell you how you can get a free copy.

What Johnny Doughboy has in mind is a log house with at least two bedrooms. He wants a big fireplace of native stone. And he thinks a native stone porch would be nice too. His bride has helped him make these plans and she has called specifically for convenience in arrangement and plenty of storage space. Johnny and his bride will be specially interested in two floor plans illustrated in the bulletin "Building with Logs". These two plans are variations of the two-bedroom arrangement. There's another plan shown calling for three bedrooms. Then there's a plan for a two-room log cabin.

The bulletin "Building with Logs" begins with down-to-earth information on how to put in the foundation. Then it goes into directions for preparing the logs and constructing the walls. But I won't go into this technical information because

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you probably won't be concerned with these matters...unless you're one of those more skillful than the rest of us with hammer and nails.

You will want to look through the bulletin and see just how a well-constructed log house should be built. And there's one section you'll be particularly interested in. It's on making rustic furniture.

Take it from the people who have built 'em in the past...building a log house is just one part of the problem. Furnishing it attractively is the other part. Some furniture just doesn't fit in a log house. It calls for simplicity....both in construction and appearance.

One way to get suitable furniture for your log home or cabin is to make rustic furniture. The forest experts have included directions for making essential pieces of furniture. There are descriptions and pictures of rustic tables, chairs, settees, beds, bunks, a wood hod and a book case. And there's a recipe for an oil stain that will protect the wood and give the furniture a good finish.

No question about it. If you're putting up a log house--either as a year-round residence or for a summer cabin---you'll want a copy of "Building with Logs." You can get a copy of this bulletin free if you'll write Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. Just ask for the bulletin, "Building with Logs."

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